XXXXXXXXXXX XX XX
TR494246

20754

8/9/66

Dear Mr. Jones,

You are kind, in your letter and what you are doing. We have gotten a few orders, including several repeat orders of about five books each from Airdedges.

The second printing is almost gone - fewer than 1,000 copies left and with the next wholesaler's order I guess we'll go back to press again. Distribution so far is over 9,000, in large part due to the thoughtfulness and kindness of my enemies who, fortunately, never learn to act as anything else! Lane or his people organized some of their lawyers and their lawyers' friends to take me apart on a NY TV show. It didn't work out quite the way they expected. That week I'm told WHITE-WASH outsold INQUEST, the week INQUEST had a front-page review in the Book Week supplement of the NY Herald Tribune.

As a matter of fact, that was probably responsible for the unusual sale of the second printing, more than 4,000 copies in two weeks. I need more enemies, especially real baddies! The mail is still pouring in, and if I didn't know better I'd think my name was Galahad. Hundreds of letters and not a single one adverse!

So I sent back two books, the one you sent, with the extra sig including the index, and the second printing, which has the whole thing in one. I'm thinking of calling the sequel WHITEWASH II: WHO DID IT. And I think I'll prove it. What do you think of the title?

Lane's book has as its chapter on Rich the same material you used. Of course, you both used the same source. But, this is the only one of his chapters in which he uses testimony that extensively. He cleaned her up a little. It also looks as though he found in my stuff things he had overlooked in his Marlham story, so he has a rather odd appendix X, in which he has the text he could not, if my suspicion is correct, get into the chapter without redoing the entire book from that point on.

My information on Epstein is as I gave it to you. He may not have expected what happened, but I understand he did get the $5,000 and you know what did happen. The few times the young man makes an appearance, he is running harder backwards each time. Sometime I'll send you a 60-page letter LOOK didn't print! I didn't expect them to, but I did a hasty job on the Kneebel piece, forgetting some things but, I think, having enough still...The major publiscations say that a non-commercially printed book doesn't exist. Hence Newsweek, which was specific to friends.

I have written Willis for a set of slides and prints, made from the original. They show signs of doctoring before he got them back and I know the Commission did, too. He hasn't answered. My chief but not exclusive interest is No. 5. Do you ever speak to him? I'd also like to know their early history, like when did he get them back. From the processors or the Secret Service. Lillian C. says they were clipped, which I am certain is so. I know of the internal evidence, for that part of my sequel is written. Willis will be more of a hero than he thinks when my sequel is out. He doesn't know

what his pictures mean. Lane has scant time for him and Allgens. The characters in my Eddie Oswald chapter were arrested in Dallas shortly before the assassination. I have something on this and need more, for I intend to use it in the book, too. It was on some kind of dope charge. The police, on a low level, told the FBI they made no mug shots. I'd like to know if this is true, the disposition of the case, whether it was all normal, inc. not photographing, disposition, etc. I have enough to make it good, but I'd like it better, more complete. Can you, without damage to yourself, look into this? Can you, ditto, speak to Willis? I sent him $10.00, not knowing what he charges.

I keep expecting Mrs. Tippit to say something, and I do not really know why. Has she?

When is your part 2 coming out?

I've sold newspaper serialization in Spain and magazine in Germany. They pay little, but it helps that much. We have now paid off all but $500 of the original printing and have enough coming to pay for the second and possibly the third. With continuing good luck, which I will not have is Holt, Reinhart and Lane have their way, we should be out of debt soon.

Thanks for your encouragement.

Sincerely,